

## State Legislative Oversight Committee Questionnaire for Iowa National Guard

### 1. How much do we use and rely on the ICN?

The ICN offers the following services to authorized users:

1. Phone & Voice
2. Data
3. Video
4. Internet
5. Domain Name Registration

The following information is regarding the **video** use portion.

TOTAL BILLABLE HOURS FOR NATIONAL GUARD SITES:

JAN-JUN 2007 total ICN sessions: 2198

JAN-JUN 2007 total session hours: 4846.76

**Equals 45% of the usage and 18% increase from SY 2006**

The Guard is on track to exceed last year's usage.

**Ranges from 7 to 10% of the sessions and from 47 to 54% of the usage.**

SFY 2006 Guard use vs. total number of ICN sessions at Guard sites: 432 of 4118

**Equals 10% of the sessions.**

SFY 2006 Guard use vs. total number of session hours at Guard sites: 3696.15 of 7924.03

**Equals 47% of the usage.**

SFY 2005 Guard vs. total number of ICN sessions at Guard sites: 335 of 4345

**Equals 7% of the sessions.**

SFY 2005 Guard vs. total number of session hours at Guard sites: 4033.1 of 7461.07

**Equals 54% of the usage.**

SFY 2004 total number of ICN sessions: 366 of 4013 ????

**Equals 9% of the sessions.**

SFY 2004 total number of session hours: 2976.75 of 6194.52

**Equals 48% of the usage.**

*NOTE: VOSS billable hour's reports produce two totals: number of sessions and number of session hours. This means the total (civilian and military) use of the ICN at Iowa National Guard sites.*

The Iowa Guard uses the ICN almost daily to conduct everyday business.

## 2. For what use?

ICN video services are used by the Iowa Guard in various ways in order to meet our mission and training goals.

The two primary categories of ICN usage are Administrative and Training. Such examples include but are not limited to:

**Training:** driver's safety courses; range safety courses; equipment training (i.e.: M1 tank crew training; M16 break down and assembly training); NCO and Officer Development Program training; common task training; yearly mandatory briefing training; military computer program/s training; MOS training; HRO training; benefits training;

**Administrative:** unit training meetings; unit administrative meetings; full-timer's staff meetings; commander's calls; battle staff training; unit RMP's; family support programs and meetings; Quarterly Readiness Briefings; annual training prep meetings; deployment prep and coordination meetings;

## 3. Is it cost effective when compared to commercial providers?

YES! The ICN charges us the following current rates for Video use (ITTC approved video rates FY 07/08, net of State provided support):

Administrative :	\$16.74/hour
Training:	\$ 9.18/hour
Guard ICN Room use fee:	\$12.50/hour

ICN administrative video cost is \$29.24/hour.

ICN training video cost is \$21.68/hour.

Local video teleconferencing services examples in Des Moines:

- Copy Cat in Des Moines \$230/hour as of 7-10-07 (IP)
- FEDEX/Kinko's in Des Moines \$350/hour as of 7-10-07 (IP)

## 4. Has our usage increased or decreased over the past 3 years?

Overall ICN use (civilian and military) of Iowa National Guard classroom use has fluctuated over the past 3 years. Military use of the ICN has increased yearly. Civilian use of our sites has slightly decreased yearly. (See question #1 response for breakdown.)

Factors for civilian usage decrease:

1. Increase in the number of classrooms on the network.
2. Many sites can operate without charging room use fees, which makes them more appealing than sites that charge a fee to operate.
3. Increase in security measures and access by civilians to Guard sites has deterred some from using our sites.
4. High deployment numbers of Iowa Guard units creates a scenario where we simply cannot support some civilian ICN requests and have to reject them.

## **5. What are our future needs of the ICN?**

The training and administrative needs of the Iowa National Guard will likely not change. Today's military deployments are actually showing an increase in the need for and reliance on the ICN to meet our mission goals.

We strive to have our leaders devise creative and beneficial ways to use the ICN for training and administrative needs.

The greatest benefit of the ICN is that meetings and training can be set up relatively quickly and that driving time, costs and risk of troops transporting to central sites is greatly reduced.

Some scenarios of future needs from the ICN may include:

1. Modification to scheduling procedures to give scheduler's more control of one's own sites (i.e.: on demand scheduling ability within agency schedulers.)
2. Modification to software to gather the input information and use it for the annual legislative savings reports. The great majority of information used to create the reports is entered in the scheduling process. Software should be able to easily and readily produce such reports on an as needed basis.
3. ???

## **6. Federal Funds Provided as initial investment and upgrades.**

1. \$10M ARPA Grant for Lightwaves Project.
2. \$676,010.00 Armory Upgrade.

## **7. Bottom Line Business Costs**

1. The Iowa National Guard pays ICN \$222K annually for data service, 108Meg spread throughout the state (ex: 1.5Meg for company level, 4Meg per Bn level). These are federal dollars expended for the federal purpose.
2. In order to pay for the same service as we have today, it would cost \$1.1M, an overall increase of \$878K.